ON PAGE 5-A

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## Soviets plans surpass limits called for in missile treaty

By Bill Gertz THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The Central Intelligence Agency is expected to release its annual estimate of Soviet weapons growth tomorrow in what the Reagan administration regards as the most dismal projection to date of a U.S.-Soviet military imbalance, according to an administration defense expert.

The estimate says the Soviet Union is likely to deploy a nation-wide mobile anti-ballistic missile defense system in 1986, according to the official.

The ABM modernization is described as the "rapid deployment of the ABM-3 mobile ABM system on a nationwide basis in 1986," the administration official said.

The Soviet Union has cited the terms of the 1972 ABM treaty in a propaganda offensive against President Reagan's Strategic Defense-Initiative. If SDI research moves to

the deployment stage, Moscow claims the system would violate the ABM treaty.

"The Soviets will have a nationwide ABM system operational by 1987, when the Moscow ABM-3 is completed and the Pechora-class [ABM] radars are completed," the administration official said. Three thousand mobile ABM interceptors will be operational by 1987, the official said.

Based on the new intelligence estimate, the official concluded that Soviet plans to exceed the ABM treaty limits are "already visible."

A declassified version of the National Intelligence Estimate, numbered 11-3-8-85, is to be made public tomorrow at a joint Senate hearing of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee and the Armed Services Committee.

The new study outlines the current U.S. view of trends in Soviet weapons developments, primarily dealing with strategic missile and

launcher programs, the official said. A product of the combined U.S. intelligence community, it is produced annually in order to provide the president with an assessment of Soviet military deployment and development trends.

Besides the CIA, other intelligence agencies contributing to the estimate are the National Reconnaissance Office, which handles satellite photographs, the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency and several other organizations.

Other key forecasts on strategic

weapons programs include:

• By 1990, the Soviets will have deployed 700 new SS-24 and SS-25 ICBMs, all with "rapid reload and refire capability."

• The Soviets have begun mass producing the new Delta IV ballistic missile submarines capable of carrying 10-warhead SS-NX-23 missiles. Typhoon-class submarines are also entering mass production with four new subs under construction.

• A new "stretch Yankee-class" submarine capable of launching supersonic SSN-24 cruise missiles will become operational this year.

Modified versions of the SSN-18, SSN-20 and SSNX-23 are also expected to be flight tested this year.

- Over the next decade, the Soviets are expected to greatly expand their strategic air forces by producing up to 140 Bear H Tu-95 bombers capable of delivering long-range cruise missiles. Forty Bear bombers have already been detected as operational.
- Production rates for the Backfire bomber will continue at 30 per year through the 1990s.
- A production facility for the Blackjack bomber is "almost com-

plete," and U.S. intelligence expects production will begin sometime before the end of this year. STAT

• A new generation of short-range and intermediate-range nuclear missiles is undergoing flight tests at a Soviet test range.

• In the next five years, "over 3,000" cruise missiles will be deployed.

The new assessment projects that Soviet spending on weapons will increase by 4 percent to 6 percent throughout the 1990s, according to an administration official familiar with the estimate.

By contrast, the Congress is pressing the administration to freeze Pentagon defense spending at current levels.